

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUENOS 04264 051515Z  
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-05 ACDA-12 CIAE-00  
INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05  
SOE-02 DODE-00 DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 /126 W  
-----076239 051558Z /43

R 051411Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5942  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 4264

USIAEA

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MNUC, PARM, ENRG, TECH, AR  
SUBJECT: ARGENTINA CELEBRATES ATOMIC ENERGY DAY: POLICIES AND  
PROGRESS

1. IN A SPEECH CELEBRATING ATOMIC ENERGY DAY, MAY 31, 1978, AND  
25 YEARS SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CNEA, VICE-ADMIRAL  
CARLOS CASTRO MADERO STATED THAT ARGENTINA HAS ALWAYS  
CLAIMED THAT IT WILL USE ATOMIC ENERGY FOR PROGRESS  
AND PEACEFUL PURPOSES, NOT FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF  
HUMANITY. CASTRO MADERO STRESSED THAT ARGENTINA'S  
OBJECTIVE IS TO ACHIEVE SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN ALL NUCLEAR  
MATTERS. HOWEVER, THIS WILL TAKE AT LEAST UNTIL 1882.  
IN ORDER TO BECOME SELF SUFFICIENT AND TO ACHIEVE A  
MORE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT NUCLEAR PROGRAM, CNEA  
MUST HAVE THE NECESSARY LEGAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL  
STRUCTURE. CASTRO MADERO STATED THAT CNEA DOES NOT  
INTEND TO INTRUDE ON THE PRIVATE INDUSTRY WHEN IT  
IS RUNNING EFFICIENTLY; IN FACT, THE CNEA WILL ASSIST  
PRIVATE INDUSTRY IN ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION.  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUENOS 04264 051515Z

HOWEVER, THE NUCLEAR POWER DECISIONS WILL STILL BE  
MAINTAINED WITH THE GOA IN THESE MATTERS. CASTRO  
MADERO AFFIRMED THAT ARGENTINA WAS COOPERATING WITH  
OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES TOWARD THE DEVELOPMENT  
OF THEIR OWN NUCLEAR PROGRAMS.

2. AMONG THE PROJECTS BEING DEVELOPED BY CNEA,

CASTRO MADERO MENTIONED NEW RESOURCES OF URANIUM, URANIUM PRODUCTION, THE BUILDING OF A PLANT FOR THE FABRICATION OF ZIRCONIUM SPONGE AND TUBES, A PLANT FOR THE TREATMENT OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES, HIGH PRESSURE LABORATORIES FOR THE TESTING OF FUEL ELEMENTS, THE INSTALLATION OF A NEW ELECTROSTATIC ACCELERATOR, INCREASING THE CAPACITY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF RADIOISOTOPES, AND A PILOT PLANT FOR THE PRODUCTION OF HEAVY WATER.

3. IN A VAGUE STATEMENT ABOUT EXTERNAL DIFFICULTIES, ADMIRAL CASTRO MADERO REFERRED TO THE INCREASING DOUBTS AND SUSPICIONS OF COUNTRIES WHICH PROVIDE TECHNOLOGY. THIS, HE SAID, IS LEADING TO THE DISREGARD OF AGREEMENTS BY OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE BEEN FREELY ACCEPTED AND IS CREATING GREAT INSECURITY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL NUCLEAR PROGRAMS BASED ON FOREIGN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

4. ACCORDING TO CLARIN, FOLLOWING HIS SPEECH, CASTRO MADERO INDICATED THAT IN THE FIRST PART OF JUNE CNEA WILL MAKE A DECISION ON THE CANADIAN OR WEST GERMAN REACTOR PLANT FOR ATUCHA II.

5. COMMENTS: IN HIS STATEMENT ABOUT EXTERNAL DIFFICULTIES AND THE DOUBTS AND SUSPICIONS OF COUNTRIES  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BUENOS 04264 051515Z

PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY, CASTRO MADERO WAS MOST LIKELY REFERRING PRIMARILY TO CANADA. THERE HAS BEEN A RUNNING BATTLE WITH THE CANADIANS OVER THE SAFEGUARD PROBLEMS AT THE CANDU REACTOR PLANT AT EMBALSE. THE ARGENTINES DECLARE THAT IN THE 1974 AGREEMENT CERTAIN ELEMENTS OF THE PLANT WOULD NOT COME UNDER SAFEGUARDS. HOWEVER, THE CANADIANS CLAIM THAT THESE SAFEGUARD REGULATIONS WERE CHANGED IN 1976 TO INCLUDE ALL ELEMENTS OF THE PLANT, AND THAT ARGENTINA AGREED TO THIS AT THAT TIME.

-- WE FEEL THAT CNEA WOULD PREFER THE CANDU REACTOR FOR ATUCHA II, BUT BECAUSE OF THE CANADIAN HARD POSITION ON SAFEGUARDS, THEY MAY OPT TOWARD THE GERMAN SIEMANS KWU REACTOR. THE GERMAN FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR A 600 MW HEAVY WATER PLANT HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED TO CNEA.  
CASTRO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, NUCLEAR ENERGY, SPEECHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BUENOS04264  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780234-0669  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BUENOS AIRES USIAEA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780697/aaaadfug.tel  
**Line Count:** 112  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** bb31be92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION OES  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 jul 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2495134  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ARGENTINA CELEBRATES ATOMIC ENERGY DAY: POLICIES AND PROGRESS  
**TAGS:** MNUC, PARM, ENRG, TECH, AR, (CASTRO MADERO, CARLOS)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/bb31be92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014